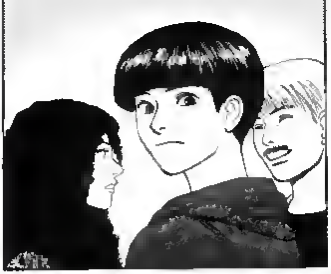
TRANSLATION: TSUKIARA + EFITS. KEY-LIME + SCANS: TSUKIARA + QC: HAWKEYE
#DOKIDOKI@IRC.RIZON.NET -- HTTP://WWW.ARASAMI.ORG

Birthday

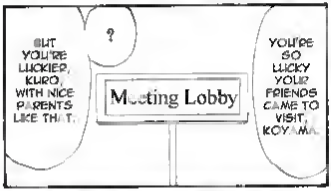
Latter Chapter
後編

A NEW YEAR CAME
HAPPY NEW YEAR
HAPPY NEW YEAR
WO — W
IT'S OSECHI"!!
HEY! MOM! DAD!
TOO BAD YOUR THROAT S STILL HEALING!!
HEY CHECK IT OUT KOYAMA-KUN! ISN'T THIS GREAT? NOW IF ONLY I COULD GET A CIGGY
I HAVEN'T EVEN GOTTEN THIS FROM MY PARENTS IN LIKE FOR-EVER
THANKS
EEH? O OTOSHI-DAMA"?
HEY WHERE'S MINE?!
WELL, WE PROMISED YOU THAT NOTEBOOK COMPUTER WHEN YOU'RE DISCHARGED DION'T WE?
tch
PLEASE BE A GOOD FRIEND TO KURO THIS YEAR TOO!!
HAPPY NEW YEAR KOYAMA-KUN

I GUESS HIS PARENTS HOLD HIM SO CLOSE TO THEIR HEARTS BECAUSE KURO'S SICK
MY FOLKS ARE EXTRAVAGANT ON THAT ONE POINT, BUT IT'S AMAZING HOW STINGY THEY BE WITH EVERYTHING ELSE!!
COOL-- THOSE ARE EXPENSIVE NOTEBOOK PCS
UNTIL I WAS INJURED THEY DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH ME AT ALL--
MINE REALLY DON'T CARE ABOUT ME EITHER WAY
U-UM, WE WERE COMING BACK FROM HATSUMODE* AND WERE CLOSE BY SO WE THOUGHT WE'D DROP IN
SAKATA!! INOUE!!
*TAN: FIRST SHRINE VISIT OF THE NEW YEAR
HEY!! YOU OKAY
YO
THESE ARE YOUR NOTES FROM WHILE YOU WERE OUT
I'M ALRIGHT I GUESS
YOU LOOK GOOD
WOW, THANKS!!



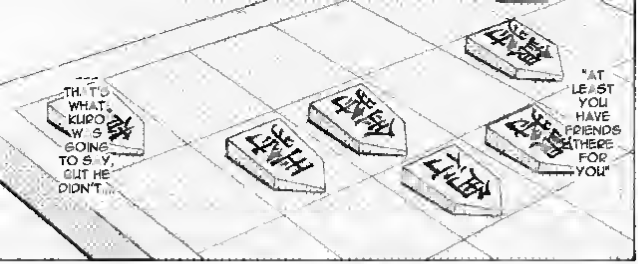
IF WE DON'T DECIDE WHAT WE WANT TO DO AFTER HIGH SCHOOL SOON, WE'RE SCREWED.
WHO KNOWS
HOW'S EVERYTHING GOING?
YEAH


BUT YOU'RE LUCKIER, KURO, WITH NICE PARENTS LIKE THAT.
?
Meeting Lobby
YOU'RE SO LUCKY YOUR FRIENDS CAME TO VISIT, KOYAMA.

THEY'RE WITH YOU BECAUSE THEY CHOOSE TO BE.
BUT FRIENDS AREN'T LIKE THAT
WELL IT'S NATURAL TO CARE ABOUT YOUR CHILDREN THEY SORT OF HAVE TO LIKE YOU
WHY'S THAT?
FRIENDS ARE BETTER THAN PARENTS ANY DAY

YOUR MOVE
THAT'S JUST BECAUSE YOUR PARENTS DON'T KNOW HOW TO SHOW YOU HOW MUCH THEY LOVE YOU

DID THEY?
WELL MY PARENTS DIDN'T COME FOR NEW YEARS


"AT LEAST YOU HAVE FRIENDS THERE FOR YOU"
THAT'S WHAT KURO WAS GOING TO SAY, BUT HE DIDN'T...

IT WAS LIKE HIS OWN LONELINESS WAS A LUMP CAUGHT IN HIS THROAT
BUT SUDDENLY
KURO'S A SMART KID AND HE'S ALWAYS SAYING JUST WHAT HE THINKS

DISCHARGED?
KURO?
NOT YET I HAVE TO TELL KURO THE NEWS!
AH I MEAN KUROYAMA-KUN
GOOD NEWS HUH? REHABILITATION GOES THAT MUCH SMOOTHER WHEN YOU'RE YOUNG
WHAT I'M GETTING OUT?!
GO AHEAD AND CONTACT YOUR PARENTS TO PICK YOU UP

LUCKY DOG
FLYING...
I WAS
BUT
KURO'S EXPRESSION JUST THEN... IT FELT LIKE FLYING
THAT'S WONDERFUL NEWS, KOYAMA!
CONGRATULATIONS

YOU SHOULD COME EVERY DAY
—ALRIGHT
THEN
I'LL COME DURING VISITING HOURS
YE YEAH
YOU'LL STILL COME TO VISIT MAKOTO, WON'T YOU?
NOW, MAKOTO!!
BRING ME SOME WAKO CHOCOLATES WILLYA

I'LL NEVER FORGET THE LOOK ON HIS FACE
MY PARENTS CAME TO GET ME
I'LL COME EVERY DAY!!
AL-RIGHT
COME NOW MAKOTO, YOU'RE BEING SELFISH

SO WHY WAS I SO SAD?

NO WAY---- YOU'VE GOT A GIRLFRIEND?
WHAT FOR? GOT A DATE?
I GOTTA RUN
SHIT, LOOK AT THE TIME!

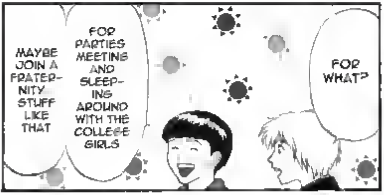
WANNA HIT ANOTHER GAME CENTER??
GOD I LOVE THIS STREET ----
WELL, IT'S KOYAMA'S "NOT DEAD" PARTY, ISN'T IT?
I WANNA DO KARA-OKE--KARA-OKE!

EXCUSE ME, I'D LIKE SOME CHOCO-LATE.
THAT'LL BE $35.00, SIR
GEH! THAT KURO SURE HAS EXPEN-SIVE TASTE----!!
UH, OKAY...

Chocolate
WAKO

AAH---- I HAVE A FEELING HE'S PROBABLY OUTSIDE WAITING
Next stop: Shinjuku— Shinjuku—
HE CAN BE SURPRISINGLY CHILDISH SOMETIMES----
I COULDN'T GET THERE BEFORE THE HOSPITAL CLOSED TO VISITORS FOR THE DAY...
SO A LOT OF TIMES I HAD TO TAKE THE TRAIN

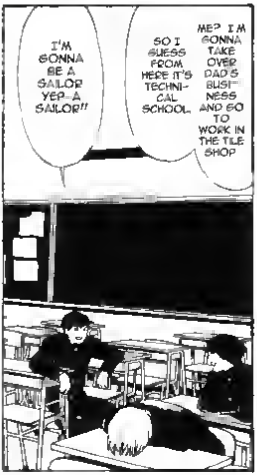
JUST SAYING IT MAKES YOU SHY!
AAH
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY FRIENDS AT SCHOOL?
YOU REALLY DO COME EVERY DAY DON'TCHA KOYAMA?
MEH IT'S NO PROBLEM I GET ALONG THE BEST WITH YOU ANYHOW YOU'RE SPECIAL
TODAY I TALKED TO THE SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR
WHAT FOR?
ABOUT THE FUTURE WHETHER I'LL GO TO WORK OR TO UNIVERSITY
LUCKY


MAYBE JOIN A FRATERNITY STUFF LIKE THAT
FOR PARTIES MEETING AND SLEEPINS AROUND WITH THE COLLEGE GIRLS
FOR WHAT?

I WANNA GO TO UNIVERSITY---

WHAT HE WANTED TO BE WHAT HE WANTED TO DO MAYBE IT WAS JUST OUT OF PITY FOR HIM BEING STUCK IN THE HOSPITAL.
I WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT
WHY YOU LITTLE--- I'M BEING SERIOUS!
sob

TCH, WOULD'VE BEEN NICE IF WE COULD HAVE GONE TOGETHER ---
KURO SAID HE WANTED TO GO TO COLLEGE ---


I'M GONNA BE A SAILOR YEP-A SAILOR!!
SO I GUESS FROM HERE IT'S TECHNICAL SCHOOL
ME? I'M GONNA TAKE OVER DAD'S BUSINESS AND GO TO WORK IN THE TILE SHOP

THAT'S IT
!

W-WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN?!
MEDICAL SCHOOL!?
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT EVER SINCE I WAS HOSPITALIZED!!
BECAUSE IF I STUDY MEDICINE I CAN CURE ALL KINDS OF DISEASES!!
THAT NIGHT I STAYED UP LATE EXPLAINING TO MY PARENTS
DAD, SAY SOMETHING!!
I'M SERIOUS!!
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU SAYING?
THIS FAMILY DOESN'T HAVE THAT KIND OF MONEY!!
THAT WAS PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME IN MY ENTIRE LIFE I'VE EVER SPOKEN TO THEM SO LONG
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS?
TAKASHI

KURO

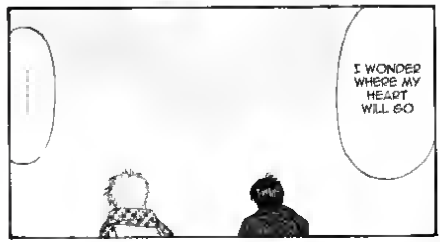
THANK YOU FOR VISITING SO OFTEN!
KOYA MA! COME IN
HEY, KOYA MA-KUN!

IT'LL BE QUITE SOME TIME BEFORE HE'S DISCHARGED ANYWAY. IT SEEMS FOOLISH TO MAKE HIM WAIT, DOESN'T IT?
WELL, WE FOUND IT PRETTY CHEAP AT THE ELECTRONICS STORE BY CHANCE SO WE THOUGHT, WHY NOT NOW?

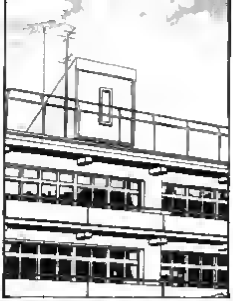
MY FATHER LISTENED TO WHAT I HAD TO SAY, SERIOUSLY. MY TEACHER DID, TOO.
IT'S RARE FOR ME TO HAVE SUCH HIGH AND RECKLESS AMBITIONS AND BE DETERMINED TO FOLLOW THEM, BUT
THEY LISTENED

I GOT A TERRIBLE FEELING
MODERN TECHNOLOGY'S REALLY AMAZING
WOW, YOU CAN DRAW PICTURES TOO?
CHECK IT OUT. WITH THIS YOU WON'T NEED TO USE ANOTHER WORD PROCESSOR ANYMORE.
THAT'S THE NEWEST, MOST EXPENSIVE MODEL OUT THERE.
...THERE'S NO WAY THEY FOUND THAT COMPUTER "CHEAP" AT A SHOP BY CHANCE
...COULD IT BE—
I FEEL BAD FOR MY PARENTS

BEING CHEERFUL ABOUT EVERY-THING IS KIND OF THEIR JOB, BUT YA KNOW



TO SEE THEIR SON BROKEN-DOWN LIKE THIS TO HAVE TO BABY HIM ALL THE TIME



IN FACT... YOU WERE THE HIGHEST SCORE IN THE ENTIRE CLASS. WITH GRADES LIKE THIS, YOU COULD CHOOSE TO GO ON TO MAJOR NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.
REALLY?
EEEE EEH?
THANKS TO YOUR SCORES ON THE LAST TEST, YOU'VE PASSED SECOND YEAR.

BUT... MY FAMILY DOESN'T MAKE ENOUGH... FOR ME TO GO TO THAT KIND OF UNIVERSITY...
I'VE BEEN SO WORRIED ABOUT KURO... I'VE BEEN UP ALL NIGHT STUDYING

SAFA SCANNED BY TOUCHED

MOM.
Heat this up for dinner.

I'M HO

pu ru ru ru ru

"WHAT?"
"DO YOU THINK WE COULD GO TO THE ZOO NOW?"
"I KNOW I JUST SAW YOU EARLIER TODAY, BUT"

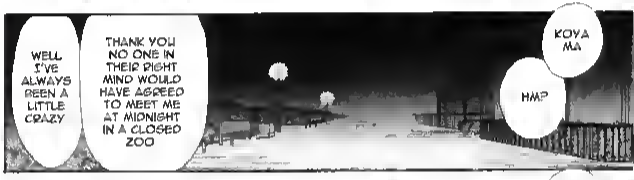
KURO?

GAAA...
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT...
IT'S ALREADY PAST 10! IT'S CLOSED, ISN'T IT?

FOR SOME REASON I GAVE IN TO HIM
IT WAS A SUDDEN AND IRRATIONAL REQUEST, BUT
NOT MANY ANIMALS ARE THERE?
SURE THERE ARE, LOOK, A MOUNTAIN GORILLA.
THAT'S AN APE-MAN, ISN'T IT?
OH STOP IT

YEAH I REMEMBER ASKING MY PARENTS FOR STUFF LIKE THAT, THEY NEVER GAVE IN. BUT I ALWAYS WANTED ONE
YEAH! LIKE THAT!
THIS PLACE USUALLY SELLS BALLOONS, I USED TO ALWAYS TEASE FOR MY MOM TO BUY ME ONE

HEEEH. THEN HE'S AN OLD MAN
AN OLD LADY. ACTUALLY
THAT GORILLA'S BEEN HERE SINCE I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

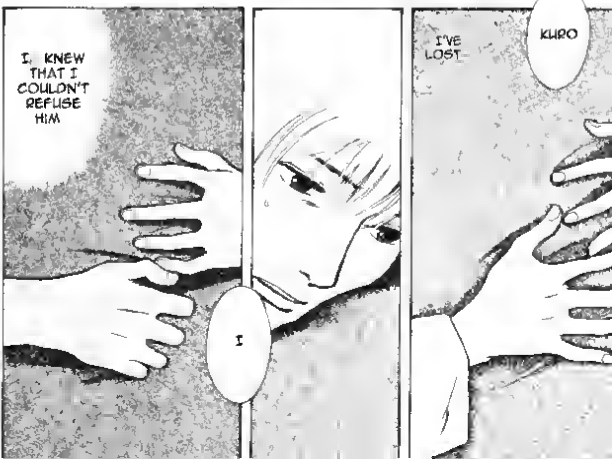

WELL I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A LITTLE CRAZY
THANK YOU NO ONE IN THEIR RIGHT MIND WOULD HAVE AGREED TO MEET ME AT MIDNIGHT IN A CLOSED ZOO
KOYAMA
HM?

KURO?
YOU MY OVER-WORKED PARENTS
MY FRIENDS AT THE HOSPITAL
I DON'T THINK I'VE GOT MUCH MORE TIME IN THIS WORLD
AND IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I'VE LEFT THE HOSPITAL
I'M TRYING TO SAY GOODBYE TO EVERYTHING

YOU KNOW I'D ALWAYS COME BACK TO WHEREVER YOU ARE!!
WHY?
BE-CAUSE I/
SAY IT SAY YOU LOVE ME
WHA
I WAIT EVERY DAY FOR VISITING HOURS WITH A CLOCK UNDER MY PILLOW
WHENEVER YOU'RE LATE, I WORRY ABOUT YOU AND THAT I MIGHT NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN SOMETIMES I EVEN CRY
I STARTED THINKING "AH... THIS MUST BE LOVE"

KU...

THIS MIGHT BE THE ONLY TIME IN MY ENTIRE LIFE
IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE
BUT I THOUGHT JUST ONCE I'D LIKE TO SEE THE ANIMALS ON A DATE WITH YOU

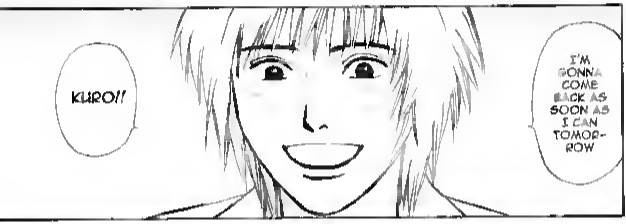

I KNEW THAT I COULDN'T REFUSE HIM
I
I'VE LOST
KURO

SO... WHICH ONE OF US IS THE GIRL?
ONE OF US NEEDS TO WEAR THE SKIRT IN THIS RELATION-SHIP...
...OH SHUT UP WITH THE JOKES. WILL YOU
...RIGHT, GOTCHA

I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER BEEN THIS HAPPY BEFORE. IF I COULD ONLY TAKE ONE MEMORY WITH ME, I THINK I'D LIKE IT TO BE THIS ONE.
.....

NOPE
YOU'RE NOT COLD?

I AM NOT, YOU IDIOT!
TRYING TO GET RID OF ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, HUH?
ASS-HOLE
IF YOU GET BACK NOW, NO ONE WILL NOTICE YOU WERE GONE. HURRY!

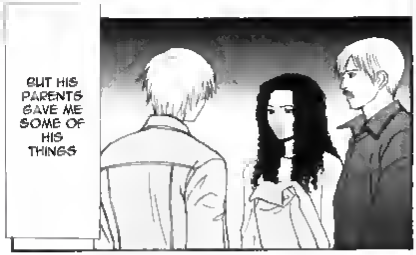

KURO!!
I'M GONNA COME BACK AS SOON AS I CAN TOMOR-ROW

ALRIGHT

BUT THAT WAS THE LAST TIME.

THEN KURO DIED.
THAT DAY, THEY HAD ADMINISTERED A NEW DRUG TO STABILIZE HIS SYMPTOMS LONG ENOUGH FOR HIM TO SAY GOODBYE TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING FOR HIM. I HATED MY OWN HELPLESSNESS.
I KNEW THEN, AT THAT MOMENT THAT THERE ARE SOME THINGS I CAN'T HELP, NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY.
HIS LIVER HAS BEEN WEAK HIS ENTIRE LIFE...
THE NEW MEDICATION WAS OUR LAST RESORT
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING SUCH A WONDERFUL FRIEND
.....



*TN: "BRIAN JONES D.ED WHEN HE WAS 27

IN THOSE LAST MOMENTS, WAS KURO REALLY AS FEARLESS AS HE SAID?

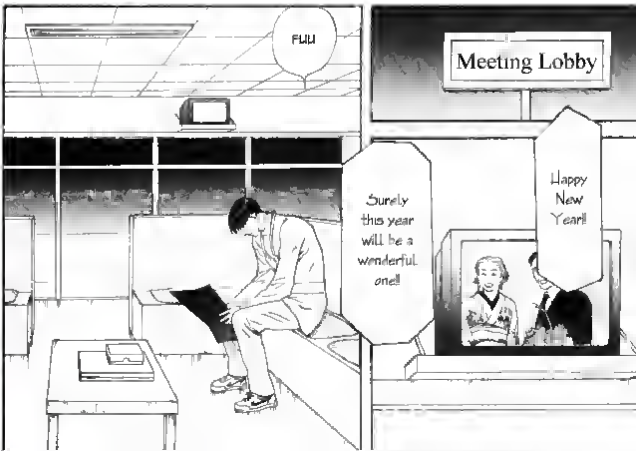
HE LEFT HIS BODY TO SCIENCE AND I COULDN'T GO TO HIS FUNERAL

新年おめでとう!!
生放送!!日本列島
Happy New Year Everyone!! Once more we welcome the New Year by waiting for the first dawn of another wonderful year!!
Here in front of Meiji Shrine we've got a heck of a crowd gathered!!
HEY, HELP ME OUT HERE, WE'VE GOT A CASE OF APENDICITIS!!
THEY'RE SO LUCKY TO BE OUT THERE—
RIGHT!
伝沢病院

GRAND-PA...
TIME OF DEATH: 12:10 AM

SHE'S DILA-TATED 5 CMS, M'AM!!
ALRIGHT, LET'S DO IT RIGHT HERE!!
COULD WE GET SOME-ONE ELSE IN HERE TO ASSIST WITH DELIVERY?!

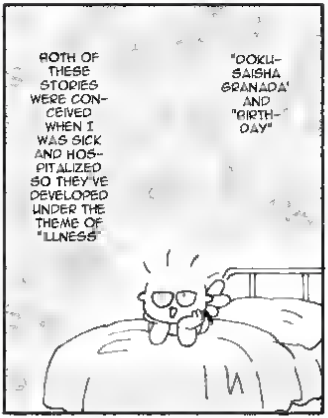
I'M GOING TO TAKE MY BREAK IN THE LOBBY. IF SOMETHING COMES UP, JUST PAGE ME.
YES, SIR!
DOCTOR KOYAMA, IT'S BREAK TIME
YES, SIR!
DID THE CAT-SCAN FROM BEFORE COME OUT YET?


FUU
Meeting Lobby
Surely this year will be a wonderful one!!
Happy New Year!!

IS STILL HERE?!
THIS...
WHAT THE KING OF THE LOBBY WOULD SAY ABOUT THIS
HAHA, I WONDER
hyuuuu

THAT'S THE DEPART-MENT STORE, AND THE MOVIE THEATRE ....
AND THERE IS THE ZOO I WENT TO WHEN I WAS JUST A BRAT
THAT PENT-HOUSE OVER THERE'S MY HOUSE... THERE'S A REALLY DELICIOUS RAMEN SHOP CLOSE BY.
WHEN WE GET OUT, WE SHOULD GO TO-GETHER SOME TIME!!

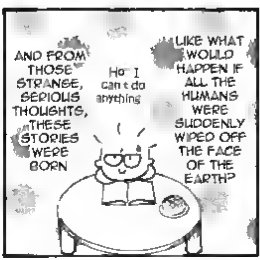
BUT THE SAME STRONG WIND BLOWS OVER US ALL.
THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE OUT THERE UNDER THIS NIGHT SKY GIFTED WITH HAPPINESS AND AFFLICTED WITH SUFFERING
IN THE END HE GOT OUT, AND IT CAME BACK.
Birthday ~ END


BOTH OF THESE STORIES WERE CONCEIVED WHEN I WAS SICK AND HOSPITALIZED SO THEY'VE DEVELOPED UNDER THE THEME OF "ILLNESS"
"OOKU-SAISHA GRANADA" AND "BIRTHDAY"

Liner Notes
NOW FOR A LITTLE TALK ABOUT THE STORIES THIS TIME.
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BUYING THIS BOOK

I BEGAN TO LOSE HOPE AND THINK OF ALL SORTS OF SERIOUS THINGS
I couldn't taste or smell anything
I had to wear an oxygen mask
THERE WAS A CHANCE THAT MY OWN SICKNESS WAS SOMETHING SERIOUS SO...

IF THERE WERE NO ONE TO CARE ABOUT US, THEN PERHAPS THERE WOULD BE NO ONE TO CONFIRM OUR EXISTENCE AT ALL
IT'S JUST HUMAN INSTINCT THAT NONE OF US CAN LIVE ALL ALONE--


AND FROM THOSE STRANGE, SERIOUS THOUGHTS, THESE STORIES WERE BORN
He I can't do anything
LIKE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF ALL THE HUMANS WERE SUDDENLY WIPED OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH?

STANDNOT SURE IF THE TITLE/AUTHOR IS ROMANIZED CORRECTLY, BUT IT'S A LONG/DRY SERIES OF BOOKS IS TOTALLY AND SHE READ 'EM ALL ^_^
WITHOUT THE SUBLIME CONTRIBU-TIONS OF OUR HEARTS IN COMBI-NATION, WHAT WOULD BECOME OF OUR EVERY-DAY LIVES?
"Taiyou-en" Copyright Musuiso Sensei Read it all while sick!*
How inte-resting
AND BE-SIDES, LIVING ALONE WOULD BE A LONG AND EXCRUCIAT-ING EXPERI-ENCE
But it's not very big on manga. I'm sorry about that
AND GOT RIGHT BACK TO DRAWING MANGA ....
I ENDED UP LIVING THROUGH IT AFTER ALL
I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I'LL CON-TINUE WITH MANGA, BUT PLEASE KEEP SUP-PORTING ME
BOW
THANKS FOR READING!!
ANYWAY!!
my bird bows to you
HUMAN EXISTENCE MAY SEEM EMPTY, BUT WE HAVE TO BE STRONG AND WANT TO SEEK OUT THE TINY SLIVER OF LIGHT IT HOLDS FOR EACH OF US.
And my friend I-san from when I was hospitalized. I still remember you!!
Like the first person to praise me for a manga I drew a long time ago called "Makuro Tomikuro", N-san.
I DREW THESE STORIES HOPING TO DO JUST THAT

■初出一覧
独裁者グラナダ／
Chara 2004年10月号～2005年2月号
Birthday／小説JUNE2002年2月号
（株式会社マガジン マガジン刊）
Free Talk／描き下ろし

■この本を読んでのご意見、ご感想を編集部までお寄せください。
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乱丁、落丁の場合はお取り換えいたします。

If you've enjoyed this manga, please consider helping out kids like Kuro by making a tax-deductable donation to the COTA.

The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) exists to assist patients who require a life-saving organ, bone marrow, cord blood or stem cell transplant. They work with any patient who needs a transplant due to a genetic disease such as Cystic Fibrosis, and all patients 21 and younger for any disease or complication.

They have, to date, assisted more than 850 families with fundraising to meet transplant-related expenses - things not covered by insurance - from almost every state and every economic situation.

Donations, in any amount, can be made online at
http://www.cota.org/site/c.dqLQI3OEKpF/b.506851/k.372/Donate_Now.htm

For more information on the organization, contact

Children's Organ Transplant Association
2501 COTA Drive
Bloomington, IN 47403
tel (800)366-2682
fax. (812)336-8885

http://www.cota.org/

For those readers not in the USA, consider gifts to the following organizations in your own area.

http://www.childliverdisease.org/ (UK)
http://www.liverkids.org.au/ (AU)

And wherever you live, please consider becoming an organ donor!!

http://www.shareyourlife.org/

DOKIDOKI
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